

## SCHLECHTY CENTER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PARTNER PROFILE

### Mission

The Schlechty Center is a private, non-profit organization committed to partnering with education leaders who are interested in nurturing a culture of engagement in their organizations, with the ultimate goal of increasing profound learning for students. We also bring change-makers together in collaborative networks in order to provide support to them as they undertake the hard work of transforming their classrooms, schools, and school districts. While many organizations are focused on measuring engagement, we are focused on the “how” of designing work—work that not only engages students in learning but also invigorates staff and gets teachers excited about teaching. That’s the sweet spot. And that’s at the heart of everything we do.

### Background

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### Approach

Every session we create, every relationship we build, and every network we support has the ultimate goal of increasing student engagement and increasing profound learning for students.

#### Transformative Professional Learning

- Each school and classroom is as unique as the community it serves. All of our work with school districts and staff includes custom consultation, coaching, and facilitation to address issues particular to a specific context. Our professional learning opportunities can be facilitated in your school district, in a conference setting, or online.
- The Schlechty Center uses frameworks, rather than programs and prescriptions, to guide our clients and partners to rethink their mental models about their roles and the rules and relationships that govern schools and districts. We work with principals in developing their role as “leader of leaders,” creating the conditions necessary to support teachers in focusing on engagement. Much of the work we do leads teachers in the design of work that students will find meaningful and valuable, causing students to volunteer their attention, persistence, and commitment, and leading to students learning those things we need for them to learn in order to be successful in school and beyond.

#### Networks for Leadership Development

- Our networks are vibrant learning communities that give you full access to our premium resources as well as support from peers who are also leading the charge to transform their schools and school districts. Our signature networks are the Superintendents Leadership Network, the Principals Leadership Network, and the Standard-Bearer School District Network. We also create customized networks for different regions of the country.

### Attributes of the Ideal Partner

Our experiences in districts and schools over the past 30+ years illustrate the constant pull for district and school leaders to think programmatically about school improvement rather than to design a systems approach to continuous improvement. The Schlechty Center is committed to creating the conditions for public school educators to think and see things in ways that foster innovation, creativity, trust, and flexibility. Our ideal partners are school and district leaders who are ready to pursue transformation, which is the creation of something completely new, as opposed to reformation, which is doing better that which has always been done. This requires patience, persistence, constant dialogue, and strategic thinking on the part of those with whom we would partner.

### Impact

We measure success by assessing the district's/school's capacity to perform. We work in partnership with district and school leaders to gather the appropriate data and create the conditions for them to measure their success in terms of student outcomes and predictive indicators such as improved student performance, increased rates of attendance, higher levels of student engagement, increased graduation and passing rates, and reductions in suspensions and expulsions. The Schlechty Center frameworks are designed to support district and school leaders to address an essential question: How does the way schools are put together—the way they are organized, the way they are managed, the way they are led—affect what happens between teachers and students in the classroom?

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Lead the charge in saving public education.  
Lead the charge in transformation.  
Lead the charge in engaging work.  
Lead the charge in your district, in your classroom.  
Lead the charge for every student.

**LEAD  
THE CHARGE.**

*Schlechty*  
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